

Here's What They Said About YWCA's Interated Program

The 17th National YWCA Conference voted to abolish all semblance of bias from its program in Atlantic City, last week.

Here's what representatives of delegates from various states said during discussion of the proposed amendments:

Richmond, Va.: After a study of the interracial reports, we looked to see in what direction we could move forward. We found that three stages exist in the Association.

1. Where colored are invited as guests.
2. Where they come as representatives of a Negro branch to speak for them.
3. Where they work as active members and leaders. We found that we are in stage two and are trying to move into the third stage.

Fort Worth, Texas: We feel that we can go only part way. Our Board of Management does not feel that it can allow two colored representatives on the board. At present we have only one.

Mississippi District: We made a study of the colored people's problem and have made great progress. We adopted and endorsed recommendations passed by the colored teachers of Mississippi concerning what should be done about Negro education in Mississippi. We also made a thorough study about what Mississippi should do for education and why it did not.

Another speaker: Colored women are being integrated in Mississippi.

Kansas City, Kansas: Colored members want a working partnership in the Association, not just representation.

Portland, Oregon: During the war in the housing emergency, the colored YWCA staff moved into our building. We soon found we were duplicating work, so we integrated the program and work of both staffs.

Plainfield, N.J.: We have worked on this program and are making progress.

Houston, Texas: I am voting for the recommendations, but I'm speaking for some of those back home. The YWCA is a community agency spending community money. Leaders of prestige in our community do not want quick changes and won't take them quickly.

St. Louis, Missouri: The Interracial Charter has carried St. Louis farther along the road to our goal.

Nashville, Tenn.: We believe in this program but it would be difficult to carry out. Tensions are increasing which make it difficult to make progress.

Atlanta, Georgia: The capacity of our leadership cannot be pushed, but it is growing. We are participating in activities together, both colored and white.

Cleveland, Ohio: I wonder if we could not ask for a protest to be presented to Community Chests about their prejudices.

Germantown, Pa.: The North has problems too. We all need to work on this.

Tucson, Arizona: We are working on this problem. We feel that we cannot study it until we all get together and tell what each of us can do to help each other.

Washington, D.C.: What should we do about members of our Board who want to work in the YWCA but do not feel that they can accept this program? Should we exclude them, and how can we if we are supposed to have a cross-section of people in our membership?

Akron, Ohio: The colored members differ as well as white people. They are not a homogenous group and are all not interested in the same thing.

Chicago, Ill.: We believe in this program, endorse it, and are following it.

University of Oklahoma: The young people of our university are working for integration, but the laws of our State do not allow it. Just last week the YWCA building on our campus was closed because of this. We are aware of the problem and working to solve it.

Harrisburg, Pa.—I want to ask you not to paint too rosy a picture of this. There are many in the communities against it. We want it in the YWCA and I am going to vote for it, but I will say that I do not know just how we are going to carry it out.

Mrs. Heslip Is YWCA Secretary

By LULA JONES GARRETT

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Mrs. Jesse S. Heslip of Toledo, Ohio, was one of two secretaries elected by the YWCA at the 17th national convention here last week.

Mrs. Heslip, the former Constance Ridley, is an instructor in race relations in the sociology department of Toledo University, treasurer of the Toledo branch of the NAACP, and former member of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Employment Problems in Ohio.

Philadelphia Named

Elected to the nominating committee for the 1949 convention were Mrs. Chauncey Harlee of Philadelphia and Mrs. Sallie N. Parham of St. Louis, Mo. Among the 33 women to memberships on the national board were: Mrs. A. Maurice Curtis of Paterson, N.J.; Mrs. Leona P. John and Mrs. Edward S. Lewis of New York City; and Mrs. Alvan Martin of Jersey City.

Mrs. Nathaniel Dillard of Richmond, Va., was made a non-resident member representing the southern region and Mrs. Boyd I. Miller of Indianapolis will represent the central region.

Mrs. J. Birdsall of Arlington Va., who was opposed by Mrs. Henry E. Corner of Baltimore and Mrs. Bartlett Heard of Berkeley, Calif. all white, was re-elected president.

3,000 Attend

The convention was attended by 2,500 voting and 500 visiting delegates.

Among them were:

Mrs. Marjorie Jackson, Portland Ore.; Mrs. J. E. Rutledge, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. William Browne, Mrs. C. M. Patterson, Springfield, Ohio; Miss Idelle Vertner, Seattle, Wash.; Mrs. Marie Honesty, Gary, Ind.;

Mrs. L. G. Pinkston, Dallas, Texas; Mrs. R. E. Jones Jr. Mobile, Ala.; Mrs. Cecelia Sanders and Mrs. Winona Bond Logan, New York City; Miss Mary Wood, Mrs. Ella Webb, Philadelphia; Mrs. Louise Austin, Trenton, N.J.; Mrs. Corrine Lewis, Jersey City;

Mrs. Helen Brashears, Plainfield, N.J.; Mrs. Isobel Greig, New Orleans, La.; Mrs. William Cuthbert, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mrs. Robert Clayton, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Leonora Johns, New York City; Mrs. Edward S. Lewis, New York; Mrs. Alma Polk, Pittsburgh; Miss Dorothy Guinn, Mrs. Ethel Bellinger, Mrs. Gladys Cralle, Mrs. Richard Jones, Mrs. Robert Campbell, Miss Mabel Gillespie, Miss Lois Deihl, Miss Gladys Taylor, all Pittsburgh;

Mrs. Kelly Miller, Mrs. Julia Hamilton, Mrs. Henrietta Childs, Mrs. Alice Ball, Dr. Gertrude Rivers, Mrs. Daisy Powell, Mrs. Vivian Mason, Washington;

Mrs. Tony Smith, Mrs. Howard Thurman, Mrs. Sumner Spaulding, Mrs. Inez Allen, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Audra Alexander, Mrs. Ada Johnson, Mrs. Elletta Fields, Des Moines, Iowa;

Mrs. Ruth Smith, Miss Suzette Cranks, Chicago; Mrs. L. G. Pinkston,

Miss Sylvia Coleman, Dallas, Texas; Mrs. Nathaniel Dillard, Mrs. Anna B. Gilliam, Mrs. Lillie Epps, Richmond; Mrs. Enonah Logan, Miss Geraldine Garrett, Mrs. Dorothy Sharpe, Mrs. Fannie Byrd, Mrs. Allan Chambers, Mrs. Lucille Washington, New York; Mrs. Catherine Barnes, Plainfield, N.J.; Miss Julia Spaulding, Miss Bertha Randolph, Miss Frances Grant, Miss Elizabeth Rogers, Mrs. Isabelle Lamay, Newark;

Miss Audrey Kent, Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Thelma Whitlow, Tulsa, Okla.; Mrs. Alice Onque, Brooklyn; Mrs. Annie Scott, St. Louis, Mo.; Miss Harriet Williams, Montclair, N.J.;

Miss Ella Frazier, Mrs. S. W. Parson, Harrisburg, Pa.; Miss Geraldine Roberts, Flint, Mich.; Mrs. Ada Johnson, Des Moines, Iowa; Mrs. V. Hardie Middlebrooks, Kansas City, Kan.;

Mrs. Sara Phillips, Youngstown, Ohio; Miss Marjorie Harris, Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. E. C. Dudley, Durham, N.C.; Mrs. Saddle Winn, Lexington, Ky.; Mrs. Theda Van Lowe, Lexington, Ky.; Miss Ruth Moseley, Lexington, Ky.;

Mrs. Mae Belton, Charlotte, N.C.; Miss Ollie Saxon, Camden, N.H.; Miss H. Boulware, High Point, N.C.; Mrs. Laura K. Fox, Roanoke, Va.; Mrs. Louise McKinney, Richmond, Va.;

Mrs. Mary Winston, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Mrs. Eleanor M. Mumford, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Emma Sawyer, Pittsburgh, Pa.;

Mrs. Alice Arrington, Mrs. Grace Hunt, Mrs. D. A. Murphy, Mrs. Victor Gray, Mrs. Lillian Lottier, Miss Ethel Freeman, Mrs. Erma Davis, Mrs. Rose Moore, Mrs. Mary Burke, Mrs. Estelle Finks, Miss Thelma Stanmore, all Baltimore.

Women Vote Integration

Separation to End
in Nation's Branches

FEW PROTEST

Wage Differentials

Also Wiped Out

By LULA JONES GARRETT

AFRO Woman's Editor

ATLANTIC CITY—Despite the protests of Southern delegates, the YWCA Conference here, Tuesday, adopted a charter to include colored women in the "main stream of YWCA life."

The new policy was set up in a 35-point program adopted almost unanimously by the representatives, no more than 12 of the 12,000 delegates eligible to vote expressing opposition to any one point.

In making their protests, the women from Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama and Texas charged that they were being asked to adopt a policy which they cannot carry out because of State laws and attitudes of the Southern white men who "hold the purse strings."

Southern Community Chest boards will not support those Y's which conform, delegates said.

Seek Full Opportunities

In addition to ruling out segregation in its own ranks, the organization voted to seek full national opportunities for minorities at its final business session, Friday.

To this end the organization pledged itself to work for full educational rights and to eliminate barriers which segregate minorities from their fellows, both materially and spiritually, in housing, transportation, worship, recreation and employment. The Association also voted to continue to urge Federal, State and local governments to eliminate discriminatory practices, and to include adequate minority representation in policy-forming and administrative functions.

Backs FEPC

The Friday session also brought a vote to support the FEPC and to request the Army and Navy to end the policy of requiring the segregation of blood in Red Cross blood tanks.

Scores Education Plan

Dr. Bryne J. Hovde, white, president of the New School for Social Research, who addressed the conference on Wednesday night, pointed out the fallacy of a democracy which varied in its systems as do schools of the South. Said he, "Democracy is not democracy if it is not ethical and no education is suitable to a dynamic democracy if it does not inculcate the principles of justice and humanity."

Disapprove Colonial Rule

Dr. Owen Lattimore, white, director of the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations, Johns Hopkins, told the group that America should neither be interested in or show sympathy to the restoration of the old order of colonial power, which he termed a land vested institution of slavery.

America's granting of independence to the Philippines, he said, is important in that it serves to demonstrate to Europe that the colonial problem can be met and solved better under freedom than under outside rule.

Recommendations Listed

Adopted recommendations urged that an interracial committee be appointed in each of 434 YWCA's; That existing interracial committees be scrutinized to determine whether they have a clearly defined function in the direction of the integration of colored into full share;

That health education departments recognize the importance of standards for all and apply to same regardless of race

That associations having all-colored constituents be placed upon and attitudes of the Southern all-association committees including personnel and finance

That in recruiting clerical and maintenance workers, the interracial character of the Y be clearly described and explained to all candidates that those be employed who are willing to work with colored as equals; and

No Salary Differentials

That salary and wage differentials between white and colored be wiped out.

The Phyllis Wheatley Y in Washington and the Orange (N.J.) association are the only ones in the country with no all-association contact.

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Race Issue

At Atlanta

Defeats YWCA

In Columbus

Constitution State News Service

COLUMBUS, May 22—Because of a controversy over the "white up as between the central unit and jected such a solution."

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YWCA Program Calls For Interracial Work

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Atlantic City—(NNPA) — The Young Women's Christian Association adopted last Tuesday a thirty-five-point program recommending the inclusion of colored women in the "main stream of association life" and calling for an end of racial separation in community YWCAs throughout the country.

The program presented to 3,000 delegates to the association's seventeenth national convention at Convention Hall, was accepted almost unanimously over the protests of a minority group of representatives from the South during a three and a half hour discussion of each of the thirty-five points.

The loudest discordant note was sounded by Miss Sally Sumner, a delegate of Nashville, Tenn. She said the program would be "most difficult to accept" in Nashville, where, she added "The men of our Community Chest Board, from which we get financial support, do not think as we women do. We believe in the recommendations, but I do not think our men will cooperate."

Protests from few delegates were heard as each of the thirty-five points was voted upon orally by the 1,200 representatives eligible to vote. The program was introduced by Mrs. Mary Tucker, of Summit, N. J., who supervised a survey of interracial practices in 228 of 434 local associations in the United States.

Held by delegates to be one of the most important points recommended was one urging local YWCA health departments to "recognize the importance of adequate health standards for all individuals and apply the same standards regardless of race." This was interpreted as recommending that gymnasiums, swimming pools, showers and locker rooms be made available for use at the same time by colored and white members.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., March 5—The seventeenth annual convention of the Young Women's Christian Association today adopted a series of recommendations calling for the integration of Negro women and girls into the "main stream" of association life as a "conscious goal" of the organization.

The action was taken almost unanimously when the delegates approved individually the thirty-five recommendations of the committee to study the interracial practices in the Y. W. C. A.'s. The committee was appointed by the 1940 convention.

Delegates recommended that the 434 associations create a committee, interracial in nature, to examine the local association and to take the initiative in helping the national board in making the program operative.

Joint Sharing of Problems
The national board was called on to issue a statement that would make clear that inclusiveness involves the joint sharing of common concerns rather than the independent activity of separate groups. In its application to association practice, the resolution read, the statement should mean that "electoral membership is open to all women and girls who subscribe to the purpose; and all electors have equal rights in the discharge of the electoral function."

Other recommendations declared that: Interracial practices and policies of all groups be reviewed periodically in the light of interracial implications.

A conscious effort be made, in non-branch communities to increase the participation of Negro women and girls in all parts of the association program.

Where racial branches exist, the association recognizes that planning separately for any racial group is too partial to be sound.

Members of the board be nominated from those who are in agreement with the "purpose" and who will seek its fulfillment to the end that all parts of the association move toward inclusion of women and girls on equal terms regardless of race.

Would Test Organizations
The delegates also recommended that the validity of branches limited to Negro members be tested primarily on the basis of their effectiveness in integrating those members into the main stream of the association life; and that where an association does not meet this test, and where community patterns do require such separation, the association evaluate the possibility of effect-

ing its work or the total community without such a branch. The report said that in communities where "because of rigid patterns of separation" it may not now be possible for white and Negro women and girls to be members of the same group, intergroup activities be consciously employed to bridge the gap.

During a discussion of the points, Sally Sumner of Nashville, Tenn., said the recommendations would be "most difficult to accept in Nashville."

"The men of our community chest board, from which we get financial support, do not think as we women do," she said. "We believe in the recommendations, but I do not think our men will cooperate."

YWCA Delegates Find Welcome At Atlantic City's Swank Hotels

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Three thousand delegates to the Seventeenth Annual YWCA Convention, whites and Negroes, Northerners and Southerners, lived together under the roofs of swanky boardwalk hotels, and the roofs did not come tumblin' down.

Following a policy adopted several conventions ago, in which it was voted that the YWCA would not hold a convention in a city which will not accord all delegates facilities on an equal basis, the results of such an arrangement here have utterly disproved the traditional theory that heterogeneous groups such as are embraced in a convention of this size cannot live amicably together—and like it.

Behind it is considerable spade work done by the convention planners in the National YWCA headquarters.

Hotels Canvassed
First, boardwalk hotels here were canvassed to see whether they would take a convention of this size, with as many races and sections of the country as would be represented. At least five replied that they would. These included the Dennis, Mayflower, Chelsea, Brightwood, and the Breakers hotels.

The National Board YWCA then set to work and had printed on a small card the essence of the New Jersey Equal Rights law. These were distributed to every delegate to the convention. It stated, "Under New Jersey law you may enter every place in New Jersey that is open to and invites the public. You may enjoy the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of any places of public accommodation, resort or amusement, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons regardless of race or color."

Places covered under the law were enumerated. And redress under the law for refusal of such accommodations was thoroughly

explained.
\$500 For Violators

"If your rights to equal treatment in such places have been violated," the card pointed out, "you may institute in the civil courts, an action at law in the name of the State of New Jersey. Should judgment be rendered in your favor the defendant pays to the State the sum of \$100 to \$500. In such instance you are allowed court costs and attorney's fees which are added to and taxed on the judgment recovered by the State."

The law further provides that in the evening when a string ensemble played in the main lounge, conventioners and regular guests sat by and enjoyed the concert with equal appreciation.

Ritz Carlton Backs Down

Among the hotels not replying in the affirmative to the YWCA's request for accommodations was the luxurious Ritz-Carlton. Several weeks later, "Parent" magazine scheduled their annual dinner there and had scheduled as one of the speakers, Lester B. Granger, executive director of the National Urban League. Recognizing Granger's name as that of a Negro, the Ritz Carlton advised it was not their policy to serve Negroes, and requested the program changed accordingly. "Parent" magazine immediately notified the hotel that not only would Granger be invited, but so would several other Negroes. At the same time the magazine offered to withdraw its request for a dinner of some 500 persons to be served there. Whereupon, the management at the Ritz-Carlton backtracked and welcomed the entire dinner party, Negroes and all.

Later Granger is reported to have written Mrs. Henry Ingraham, president of the National Board, YWCA, crediting that organization with a very effective job in establishing the rights of all American citizens to equal ac-

cess to all public facilities in Atlantic City, irrespective of race. criminal action may also be taken against owners or others who practice discrimination. Deemed guilty of misdemeanor by this section of the act, those owners and others convicted are subjected to fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment of not more than 90 days or both."

The YWCA convention planners then wrote to the State Attorney General, expressing their appreciation for the courtesy which had been extended them in their request for convention and hotel facilities in Atlantic City. They apprised him of their action in informing the delegates who expected to attend of the Equal Rights law regardless of race or color which obtained in the State of New Jersey. They told him that since the State's Attorney General has been given final responsibility to carry out and enforce the provision of the law, they would report to him any infraction thereof.

Atlantic City Cordial

As a result, a cordial, and open-armed Atlantic City welcomed all comers with equal courtesy and consideration. As far as could be determined, the convention was without mishap as far as living, eating and recreational facilities were concerned.

Those who attended the convention here in 1940 say a by far more cordial air permeated the entire boardwalk. They assert that although the same accommodations were accorded them previously, there was an unmistakable sign of condescension on the part of management and service employees in the hotel as well.

There was no evidence of such an attitude this time. Management was solicitous as to the comfort of each guest, and service employees, both white and Negro, seemed anxious to make their full contribution to democracy on trial. At the Chelsea, the captain in the dining room, a Negro employee of several years, said there had

been no indication on the part of 500 delegates lived, there was no sign of that hotel sign of not being wanted in any parlor facing the ocean, all delegates took full advantage of every comfort.

Negroes Not Refused
Asked whether such accommodations would be accorded them were it not a convention, he replied that the Chelsea Hotel, to his knowledge, had never refused service to a Negro. In the beautiful and lavishly appointed Dennis Hotel, where some

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Workshops included ballet and modern dancing taught by Mrs. Durham

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Advisors were Miss Sadie Brice

Matthew Carter, of Richmond, swimming, Mrs. William Scott, of Roanoke; dramatics, Miss Elizabeth Schmoke, of Raleigh; crafts, Mrs. J. M.K. Teamer, of Charlotte and Miss Mildred Sisson, of Richmond; and music, Mrs. Carrie Quanker of Charlotte.

Mrs. Lillie Epps of Richmond was recreation director. Present for the first half of the conference to work with the 21 adult leaders was Miss Metta M. Mitchell, executive director of Charlotte YWCA.

The conference staff included Mrs. Irene Mitchell of Lynchburg, registrar; Miss Verdel Westmoreland of Winston-Salem, secretary; Miss Helen Boulware of High Point, book store manager; and Mrs. W. T. Stroud of Raleigh, conference hostess.

Advisors were Miss Sadie Brice of Richmond; Miss S. Harrison, Mt. Hope, W. Va.; Miss Nellie Price, Bluefield, W. Va.; Miss Rose McCallister, Charlotte; Miss Nadine Willmon, Huntington, W. Va.; Miss Julia Brown, Charleston, S.C.; Mrs. George Ford Newport News, Va., and Miss Ruth Göttes of Durham

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YWCA Shows Democracy Can Function in Virginia



Richmond business and professional women and girls showed that democracy need not be a symbol only when they held an interracial celebration of World Wide Observance Day at Central YWCA. Seated clockwise around the table are: Mrs. Theophill C. Taylor, Mrs. James L. Mayes, program chairman; Mrs. LaNette J. Stratton, chairman, B. and P. Girls' Council; Mrs. Edith B. Reed, co-chairman of program committee; Mrs. Bernice Cousins, Miss Margaret Forsyth, Miss Doris V. Byrd, Miss Mary E. Jackson and Miss Rubye S. Frye.

YWCA Business, Professional Girls Hold Interracial Fete

Afr. American Baltimore, Md.
RICHMOND—The first joint in-er representatives of various counterracial World Wide Observance Day program of Business and Professional Womens Clubs of this country. Phyllis Wheatley and Central YWCAs was held Monday at Century, the first time that the interracial program has been sponsored jointly by the Central and Phyllis Wheatley branches, is seen as an attempt to live up to the liberal policy adopted at the national convention.

This event, the 19th annual celebration, which is international in scope, is being observed by business women and girls and related groups in the 43 community YWCAs in this and the 60 foreign countries where the association has branches.

World Wide Observance Day is set aside by the 60,000 business and professional girls in the United States and similar groups throughout the world as a day on which they unite with fellow workers in all countries to pledge mutual co-operation for building a better world.

Message From Mrs. F. D. Eleanor Roosevelt, read during the celebration, the former First Lady extended greetings and stressed the importance of bringing together

Mrs. Mayes Officiates
Mrs. Jane Mayes and Mrs. Edith Reed were co-chairmen of the program from Central and Phyllis Wheatley branches, respectively, and Mrs. LaNette J. Stratton is chairman of the local Business and Professional Girls Council.

Theme for the observance this year was "A World—My Privilege and Responsibility." Also a feature of the program was presentation of choric verse written for the occasion by B. and P. girls of the Boston YWCA, emphasizing the privileges and responsibilities of one world.

41-Year-Old Diary Tells of YWCA Beginnings

Afr. American Baltimore, Md.
by Anne Brock

BALTIMORE—The large, well-planned, well-staffed building in Baltimore which houses the Madison Ave. Branch Young Women's Christian Association represents 50 years of growth—from small, makeshift quarters to a four-story building; from a small group of women to a membership of 4,000. The first decade (from 1896 to 1906) was a period of rapid growth. Mrs. Martha E. Murphy, one of the founders, kept a diary during 1905 and 1906, which records the early struggles of the group.

Paid Up After 11 Years
In 1905, 1200 Druid Hill Ave. was being purchased for \$4,500. A deposit had been made on July 15, 1903, and the interest and cost of the property was paid in full on April 11, 1907—11 years after the YW was organized.

The Colored Young Women's Christian Association, as it was called, was founded in February, 1896, as an outgrowth of the Women's Auxiliary of the Colored Young Men's Christian Association. Mrs. Murphy was a member of the Willing Workers, the Fresh Air Circle and the Empty Stocking Circle.

While paying for the property, the association had to make building improvements to accommodate both the 14 girls housed there and the committees and outside groups which needed a place to meet.

Nearly 250 Members
The young women who were housed at the YW paid \$1.50 and \$2 rents. Approximately 250 men and women held memberships, which netted between \$250 and \$300 yearly. The memberships, together with the rent, provided only about half of the funds needed to carry on the work of the association.

Funds from Benefits
The committees in the YW collected



Mrs. MARTHA E. MURPHY

Women, in being asked to contribute dues of \$1 or \$1.50, for a new YWCA were being asked to contribute a day's pay. Tuesday, March 20, 1905—Was a great day. Mrs. Grace Stanley joined and brought in \$5 for the association's work. June 2, 1905—One dollar received from St. Luke's Society. The recruiting of members went on throughout the year. Men, as well as women, were members. February 7, 1905: Went to the bank and deposited \$15. Met Miss Ada Cole at the YW to take the inventory of bed linen and blankets. From there we went to the normal school and collected \$1 memberships from 8 persons.

Among expenses listed by Mrs. Murphy were such items as: Paid for laundry of five white spreads, 50 cents; paid sick girl for three boys with Mrs. Cummings on July 25, 1905, went to Waverly to procure spreads, 50 cents; including refund of her room rent; one dollar paid for putting down of carpets and putting up curtains, for laundry 40 cents, for men printing of tickets, \$1.50, and for oil, \$2.

Give Day's Pay
The Fresh Air Circle during July of 1905 sent aid to 12 children. Mrs. Cummings on July 25, 1905, went to Waverly to procure spreads, 50 cents; including refund of her room rent; one dollar paid for putting down of carpets and putting up curtains, for laundry 40 cents, for men printing of tickets, \$1.50, and for oil, \$2.

Activities of Members
The committees visited the sick, offered help to children and the aged, and presented gifts to sons who were leaving the city permanently. The diary mentions discussions among members about getting several women into the home for the aged. An entry made on Jan. 9, 1905, was considered a working man's circle included Mrs. Mary Irvin.

One of the members presided as leader during Bible class, the Tuesday, July 18, 1905, entry read: "The Bible Class met as usual. Mrs. Anderson was the leader. No teacher was present." Rooms were rented to the Home Mission for two nights for \$5. Out collections ranged from \$2.40 to \$76, with the average about \$2.75 of this, 75 cents was paid for hav-

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Among expenses listed by Mrs. Murphy were such items as: Paid for laundry of five white spreads, 50 cents; paid sick girl for three boys with Mrs. Cummings on July 25, 1905, went to Waverly to procure spreads, 50 cents; including refund of her room rent; one dollar paid for putting down of carpets and putting up curtains, for laundry 40 cents, for men printing of tickets, \$1.50, and for oil, \$2.

The diary mentions discussions among members about getting several women into the home for the aged. An entry made on Jan. 9, 1905, was considered a working man's circle included Mrs. Mary Irvin.

One of the members presided as leader during Bible class, the Tuesday, July 18, 1905, entry read: "The Bible Class met as usual. Mrs. Anderson was the leader. No teacher was present." Rooms were rented to the Home Mission for two nights for \$5. Out collections ranged from \$2.40 to \$76, with the average about \$2.75 of this, 75 cents was paid for hav-

of envelopes for contributions to the association.

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Mrs. Leah Manakao, Miss Carolyn Owens, Mrs. Redden, Miss Lucy Worth, Mrs. Adeline Keys, Mrs. Will Cornish, Mrs. Susie Ross and Mrs. Queenie Taylor.

Members of the Helping Hands included Mesdames John Hurst, John Holmes, Mary Handy, Lancaster Peck, Ella Davis, and Fannie Lewis, and Miss Emma Mitchell.

NEGROES AND OUR Y. W. C. A.

THE LEDGER is reluctant to believe that the national Young Women's Christian Association would willingly do anything to impair constantly improving relationships between whites and Negroes in the Deep South.

But we must say that if national "YW" supports the stand taken in Columbus by its representative, Miss KATHRYN FASNACHT, then a serious question arises as to whether Columbus needs or wants affiliation with an organization whose racial policy is so "advanced."

We are quite sure the public—which had responded generously to the appeal for 3,000 members in order to implement the gracious gift by Mrs. W. B. GLENN of a spacious home for a "YW" strictly white organization, conceived—and was shocked to read yesterday that all such plans have been summarily abandoned, temporarily anyway.

The factors behind this reluctant action involve the very roots of good racial relationships and we see no reason why the whole incident should not be discussed frankly.

Let it be understood from the outset that the movement toward a "YW" was, and is, in the hands of public-spirited white citizens; it is they—not Columbus Negroes—who were prepared to put up the money, and certainly they retain every ethical right to say how their own money shall be spent and managed.

In the normal course of human events, a Negro branch of "YW" would certainly have been established; such an institution, indeed, was already uppermost in the thoughts of the sincere women who fostered the overall plan, because they know that Negro girls also need a "YW."

However, such developments must take place gradually, according, perhaps, to a pattern with which Columbus is familiar, and which has led over the years to the successful development in the men's field of a Central Y. M. C. A., and a functioning Negro branch Y. M. C. A.

The "YM" has separate boards as between the two races, and this was the tested idea contemplated for "YW" development.

Miss FASNACHT, however, clearly did not comprehend the deeply ingrained instinct toward segregation implicit in the South's method of handling "race."

She handed our local women the minimum requirements of a "constitution," which provided that both white and Negro members would cast a common ballot to elect a "YW" board, and that at least one Negro must sit upon that board. We understand, moreover, that her attitude was to insist that our people take this or nothing.

Of course the proposal was rejected. No other decision could have conformed with the decent realities of Georgia custom, and—as a practical proposition—it would be unthinkable to give Negroes a voice in fixing policy for a "YW" strictly white organization, conceived and paid for by white people.

The better element among Columbus Negroes will know that we do not make that statement out of any desire to retard their progress.

THE LEDGER was one of the first newspapers in Georgia to urge abolition of the poll tax; we were among the early and more vigorous advocates of a Democratic primary open to both whites and Negroes—a goal which has been achieved in 1946.

More than that, we have preached inter-racial tolerance with every fiber of our strength, and we have been instrumental, we believe, in helping to achieve for Negroes an improved economic opportunity, even down here in Georgia.

But people with ideologies such as Miss FASNACHT espouses, do more harm than good when some national organization such as "YW" unwisely sends them into the South. Perhaps they are sincere in the desire to achieve meteoric results overnight, but they invariably fail when they seek to ram down our throats a spurious concept of "equality" which is unlikely to be achieved within the life span of any Georgian now living.

The upshot of this young woman's unhappy visit to Columbus was that she shocked community sensibilities to such an extent that the whole "YW" plan was dropped.

The young white women of Columbus

will lose nothing, because we are quite sure that some other way will be found to use Mrs. GLENN's gift in such a way as not to insult Georgia tradition.

But the eventual establishment of a Christian center for young Negro women will almost certainly be retarded, simply because Columbus Negroes seem to be unable—financially or otherwise—to establish such an institution without the help of white citizens.

That help has never been withheld from any enterprise which offered a legitimate hope of raising the status of Columbus Negroes; it has, on the contrary, been given generously and promptly.

If Columbus Negroes are in a position to build their own "YW" with their own money and support it with their own money, we know that the white community would be extremely proud of them, and would never intrude upon its management.

But—they must not get any queer notions about sitting upon, or helping elect, any board which runs a strictly white "YW." Those who advise toward any such ambition do a grave disservice to decent racial relationships, and to the Negro race.

We very much hope that the national "YW" will repudiate the ideologies expressed in Columbus by Miss FASNACHT. If not, it will have nothing where it could have had something, because on this point the community will, and must be, adamant.

Des Moines YWCA Dissolves Branch, Ends Segregation

DES MOINES. — The Blue Triangle branch of the Young Women's Christian Association which has been in existence as the Negro unit of the Y.W.C.A. since 1919 has joined its forces with the Central association here as the first step of the local Y.W.C.A.'s plans for complete integration.

The branch building for Negro activities which had been located at 1407 Center St., for 13 years, went out of existence as a Y.W.C.A. building when the executive director, Mrs. Ada Johnson, moved her offices to the Ninth and High building and residents found other homes in the city.

The branch building was sold to the highest bidder, Mrs. Pauline Humphrey, owner and operator of a beauty school, for \$7,000.

Miss Katherine Lucchini is executive director of the Des Moines association.